

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Claims 1-10 and 12 of the above-identified patent application have been amended as to form, for example, by introducing indefinite and definite articles, introducing indentation, replacing "characterized in that" with --wherein--, and converting multi-dependent claims to singly dependent claims.

The title of the specification has been amended herein to correspond to the related International Patent Publication No. WO 00/37550. The specification has been amended to include section headings, in accordance with accepted practice before the Office. The cross reference information inserted on page 1 of the specification, is presented in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2) (Federal Register / Vol. 65, No. 183 / Wednesday, September 20, 2000; Changes to Implement Eighteen-Month Publication of Patent Applications; Final Rule). An abstract of the patent application is included herewith on a separate page.

The amendments presented herein do not represent the entry of new matter into the application. Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSIONS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION: (Marked-Up)

The following are changes and additions made to the specification.

The following is a version of the title on line 2 of page 1 showing changes made thereto by amendment herein.

[Novel polymer mixtures with mould release agents] NOVEL POLYMER BLENDS
WITH MOULD-RELEASE AGENTS

The following has been inserted between lines 2 and 4 on page 1 of the specification.

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED PATENT APPLICATIONS

The present patent application claims the right of priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 and 35 U.S.C. 365 of International Application No. PCT/EP99/09693, filed 9 December 1999, which was published in German as International Patent Publication No. WO 00/37550 on 29 June 2000, which is entitled to the right of priority of German Patent Application No. 198 59 050.4, filed 21 December 1998.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The following has been added at line 10 on page 1 of the specification.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The following has been added at line 28 on page 3 of the specification.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following has been added at line 13 on page 4 of the specification.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

IN THE CLAIMS: (Marked-Up)

The following are versions of the amended claims with markings to show changes made thereto in the present Preliminary Amendment.

1. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) Thermoplastic polymer mixtures [containing] comprising:

at least one polycarbonate; and

at least one mould release agent with at least one polyol component;[, characterised in that]

wherein at least one polyol component (I) of said mould release agent consists of a parent substance with 4 or more carbon atoms, 3 or more hydroxyl groups, more than one hydroxyl group esterified with aliphatic carboxylic acids, and one or [preferably] more [than one] free hydroxyl groups.

2. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to] of Claim 1[, characterised in that] wherein the parent substance contains 4 to 12 carbon atoms[, preferably 4 to 8 carbon atoms, particularly preferably 5,6 or 7 carbon atoms, very particularly preferably 5 or 6 carbon atoms and even more preferably 5 carbon atoms].

3. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that] of Claim 1 wherein the aliphatic carboxylic acids are selected from C₂-C₃₀ fatty acids and mixtures thereof[, preferably C₅-C₂₅ fatty acids, preferably C₈-C₂₄ fatty acids, particularly preferably C₁₂-C₂₂ fatty acids, very particularly preferably C₁₆-C₂₀ fatty acids and even more preferably C₁₆-C₁₈ fatty acids or mixtures of these fatty acids].

4. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that] of Claim 1 wherein the polyol component (I) is [used] present in amounts of 0.005 wt. % to 0.5 wt. %[, preferably 0.01 wt. % to 0.2 wt. %, very particularly preferably 0.015 wt. % to 0.1 wt. %, and even more preferably 0.02 wt. % to 0.08 wt. %].

5. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that,] of Claim 1 wherein in polyol component (I), a carbon atom with a hydrogen substituent is not located immediately adjacent to a carbon atom with hydroxyl groups.

6. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that,] of Claim 1 wherein in polyol component (I), the number of esterified and of free hydroxyl groups is the same.

7. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that] of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of the amount of polyol component (I) in the mould release agent to other optionally present components in the mould release agent is greater than 1:1.

8. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that] of Claim 1 wherein the proportion of polyol components with less than one free hydroxyl group or polyol components with less than two esterified hydroxyl groups in the entire mould release agent are each less than 24 wt. %[, preferably less than 20 wt. %, particularly preferably less than 15 wt. % and even more preferably less than 10 wt. %].

9. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that] of Claim 1 [in addition other ingredients and/or] further comprising at least one additive[s conventionally used in polycarbonate mixtures such as e.g. preferably] selected from stabilisers, flame retardants, antistatic agents, fillers, foaming agents[,] and colorants [etc. are present].

10. (Once Amended, Marked-Up) The [T]thermoplastic polymer mixtures [according to at least one of the preceding Claims, characterised in that] of Claim 1 wherein [at least one polycarbonate is present which contains bisphenol A and/or trimethylcyclohexyl bisphenol (TMC) as diol blocks, preferably being chosen from the group of] said polycarbonate is selected from homopolymers of bisphenol A[,] and copolymers of bisphenol A with trimethylcyclohexyl bisphenol [TMC or copolymers with 5 to 50 wt.% of TMC].

21. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 3 wherein the aliphatic carboxylic acids are selected from C₁₆-C₁₈ fatty acids and mixtures thereof.

22. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 4 wherein the polyol component (I) is present in amounts of 0.01 wt. % to 0.2 wt. %.

23. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 4 wherein the polyol component (I) is present in amounts of 0.015 wt. % to 0.1 wt. %.

24. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 4 wherein the polyol component (I) is present in amounts of 0.02 wt. % to 0.08 wt. %.

25. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 8 wherein the proportion of polyol components with less than one free hydroxyl group or polyol components with less than two esterified hydroxyl groups in the entire mould release agent are each less than 20 wt. %.

26. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 8 wherein the proportion of polyol components with less than one free hydroxyl group or polyol components with less than two esterified hydroxyl groups in the entire mould release agent are each less than 15 wt. %.

27. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 8 wherein the proportion of polyol components with less than one free hydroxyl group or polyol components with less than two esterified hydroxyl groups in the entire mould release agent are each less than 10 wt. %.

28. (Added) The thermoplastic mixtures of Claim 10 wherein said polycarbonate is selected from copolymers of bisphenol A with trimethylcyclohexyl bisphenol containing 5 to 50 wt. % of trimethylcyclohexyl bisphenol.

29. (Added) The moulded articles of Claim 12 wherein said moulded articles are selected from compact discs and DVDs.